

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 25, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

We write to request that the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) include a funding recommendation for project development activities for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (Metro) West Santa Ana Branch (WSAB) Transit Corridor Project in the Annual Report on Funding Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2024 - Capital Investment Grants (CIG) Program and Expedited Project Delivery Pilot Program.

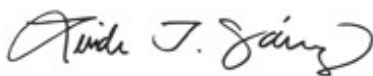
The WSAB Transit Corridor Project, which will expand economic opportunity and equity for disadvantaged communities across southeastern Los Angeles County, is a model for the investments called for under President Biden's Justice40 initiative and Executive Order 14008. Thanks to its transformational potential, on April 22, 2021, Metro's Board of Directors established the WSAB Transit Corridor Project as the agency's number one candidate for the CIG Program. The WSAB Transit Corridor Project was granted approval to enter the Project Development phase of the CIG Program and was included in the Annual Report on Funding Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2023.

It is our understanding that Metro has moved aggressively to advance this vital project through key milestones while cities along the WSAB Transit Corridor continue to develop comprehensive Transit Oriented Communities plans, in some cases, with the full support of the FTA. These positive steps by Metro, coupled with growing support for the WSAB Transit Corridor Project from local, state, and federal officials, are developments that favorably position this project to move forward in the CIG Program.

As southern California prepares to host several major global events in the coming years – including the World Cup in 2026 and the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2028, we believe it is critical for the WSAB Transit Corridor Project to secure a funding recommendation of \$50 million for project development activities in the upcoming CIG Report. This amount would cover a portion of the costs associated with preliminary engineering activities, environmental reviews, and other tasks required during the project development process.

We are grateful for the Department's close collaboration with Metro on its efforts to successfully advance the WSAB Transit Corridor Project through the FTA CIG process. Thank you for your commitment to enhancing equity and mobility across Los Angeles County and the United States.

Sincerely,



Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



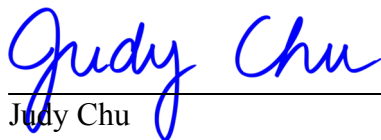
Karen Bass
Member of Congress



Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress



Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Nuria Fernandez, Administrator, Federal Transit Administration